



Woodstock Economic Development Commission
Woodstock Town Hall
06281

Economic Development Commission
Special Meeting Wednesday, July 14, 2021
In person, Woodstock Town Hall

MINUTES

1. The call to order for the Special Meeting by Chair Stuart Peaslee was at 6:02 PM
 2. Roll call: Stuart Peaslee, Dotti Durst, Frank Olah, Sean Copeland. Others: Amy Monahan.
 3. Alternates: N/A
 4. Citizens' Comments:
 5. Chair's comments: *the newest revision of **The Process for Obtaining a Business Permit in Woodstock** brochure, under development by S. Peaslee, passed around. *The Selectman's Office notified the WEDC it may add a Woodstock Business List to the WEDC website page.
 6. Old Business:
 - a. The Farmers' Market event- Chase Lumber has agreed to host the event on August 14, which is jointly sponsored with the Grange. All Ag-related businesses will be invited to participate, including the possibility of a live animal. With a provided map, other activities and places in town will be featured. The map will have space for some paid ads to cover the costs. A. Monahan, who has created a draft poster/ad, will get the permit from the Selectman's Office.
 - b. The document from the Cultural Coalition, distributed last month, provides information about utilizing 1% of ARPA Grant funds to support the arts/cultural community. This can be one aspect of the event that the WEDC is considering, perhaps a Children's Art submission through September, with an award of some kind. The Chair will investigate further with the First Selectman.
 - c. Efforts to Connect with the Community: the 3 print ads in the Villager were successful. Since the second one was incorrectly printed in black/white, a third ad was run, with some budgetary assistance from the Selectman's office.
 7. New Business: * Amy Monahan has developed a detailed list of Woodstock businesses, sorted by business type, which she has shared with the WEDC members. The consensus is to move ahead to have it uploaded on the WEDC webpage; A. Monahan will submit it.
- *The Woodstock Grown Brochure needs to be updated; what is a likely source of funding? This is a major tool to support WDSTK's ag-related businesses, and there are several new ones.

* What WEDC purposes can be fulfilled by the influx of American Rescue Plan funds?

D. Durst will ask the Finance Office.

* S. Copeland will develop the 2 ideas he brought in which would make Woodstock's business community more accessible.

* The question of how to recruit a college intern to work with the WEDC was re-visited. UCONN was approached, but no response was received. Nichols, Eastern and QVCC should be approached.

8. Members' comments:

* D. Durst suggested creating a plan to utilize the new fiscal year budget: 1). Expenses for Grand Openings 2). The Ag Event on August 14 3). Possible Zoom expenses. D. Durst will confirm. 4). Others will be identified at the next meeting.

* The members were polled regarding future WEDC meetings. The consensus was to
a). utilize Zoom frequently, if not exclusively, even though there is an acknowledged value to in-person meetings
b). look into meeting twice monthly, to build up momentum toward goals and to make faster progress. D. Durst will ask the town if a second monthly meeting (Special Meeting) is possible.

9. Motion S. Copeland seconded by D. Durst to adjourn at 7:25 PM carried unanimously.

Submitted by Dotti Durst

These minutes have not yet been approved by the WEDC. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.